

Questions About Absentee Ballots

What is the procedure for requesting an absentee ballot?

- a. By mail – To request by mail, complete the absentee/vote by mail ballot application from the back cover of the sample ballot pamphlet. Simply sign and drop in the mail. It's postage paid. You may also send a signed letter to the City Clerk requesting an absentee ballot be mailed to you.
- b. By fax – fax your request to (562) 570-6789.
- c. By internet – complete the electronic application available on our web site and submit. Log on to <http://www.longbeach.gov/cityclerk>

How do I get my ballot mailed to a different address?

There is an area on the application for mail ballot that must be completed with the mailing address in order for the ballot to be mailed to the mailing address. In lieu of a home address, ballots can be mailed to an alternate address or a post office box.

I would like to vote absentee in every election. Must I apply for an absentee ballot for each separate election?

No. You can apply for "Permanent Absentee Voter" (PAV) status. Once on file as a PAV, a ballot will automatically be mailed to you for each election in which you are entitled to vote. Once a voter receives PAV status, he/she will retain this status as long as he/she casts a ballot in statewide general elections. For additional information on becoming a PAV, please refer to your sample ballot pamphlet or call the City Clerk Department at (562) 570-6101.

I received an absentee/vote by mail application from a political campaign. Is this ok to use?

Yes. Individuals, organizations and groups may distribute absentee/vote by mail ballot applications; however they must use the standard format as specified by the Long Beach City Clerk. The election official is not responsible for absentee/vote by mail ballot applications mailed to these individuals or groups. To ensure your ballot is mailed to you in a timely manner, it is recommended that you fax, mail or bring your application directly to the Elections Office.

What is the deadline for returning an absentee ballot?

All absentee ballots must be received by the election official by 8 p.m. on election day. Postmarks do not count.

I have spoiled/lost my absentee ballot, can I get another?

Yes. Please contact the City Clerk Department at (562) 570-6101, or fax a statement with request for duplicate to the City Clerk Department at (562) 570-6789. For a spoiled ballot you may mark the outside of the envelope and mail the spoiled ballot back to us (time permitting). We will then issue a new ballot to you.

If I don't mail in my ballot in time to make the deadline, how do I make sure that my vote is received?

You may turn in your voted absentee ballot to any polling place in the City or at the City Clerk Department. If, because of illness or physical disability, you are unable to return the ballot yourself, you may authorize, in writing, a spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister or person residing in your household to return the ballot to the Elections Office or to any polling place within the City by 8 p.m. on Election Day.